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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

NFIC - 9. 11/1

22 January 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Reports on Computer Security for SCI-Handling Systems

1. The DCI's Computer Security (COMPUSEC) Project began in April 1983 and is intended to support the DCI in assessing the security of automated systems processing information derived from sensitive methods and sources, to identify the threats to automated systems processing such materials, and to recommend actions for the DCI that will allow him to attest to the acceptability of operating risks. [REDACTED]

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2. As part of the DCI's COMPUSEC Project, the COMPUSEC Project Team developed an assessment on the threat to US automated Intelligence Community systems (See Attachment 1). Representatives from the NFIC Community have provided input to this document. This formulation of the "threat" is being used in conjunction with security assessments of the Intelligence Community's "critical" automated SCI systems to set program and budget priorities for immediate security upgrades. This threat point paper also serves to fulfill one of the DCI's continuing distinctive responsibilities. [REDACTED]

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3. The SAFEGUARDS document (Attachment 2) identifies security requirements for the protection of SCI information in the "critical" systems evaluated as part of the DCI's Computer Security (COMPUSEC) Project. When fully implemented in the "critical" systems, the SAFEGUARDS will correct the security shortfalls and reduce to an acceptable level the risks currently associated with processing this sensitive information in the "critical" systems. I intend to direct that the SAFEGUARDS be imposed as mandatory standards for the 13 "critical" SCI-handling systems by the end of FY 86. These SAFEGUARDS will also be imposed as voluntary standards for other SCI-handling systems. [REDACTED]

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4. In June 1984, an interagency Computer Security Technology Panel was established to assess the application of computer security technologies against known operational deficiencies within Intelligence Community computer systems. The panel focused on what could be done, in the near term, with existing computer security technology and administrative/management actions to provide security upgrades for our "critical" systems. Specific emphasis was given to three areas of computer security vulnerability: authentication of [REDACTED]

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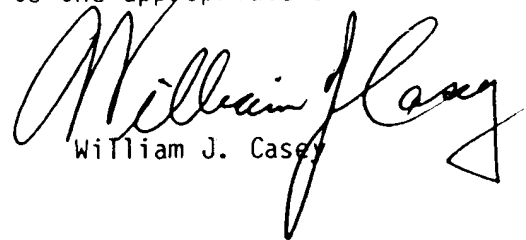
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users; accountability of operating actions; and labeling of SCI information. The findings and recommendations of the Technology Panel are provided to you for your use and comment (See Attachment 3). When these "action-oriented" recommendations are arrayed against the identified vulnerabilities of the "critical" systems and the threat against them, it will lead to a plan for significant improvement in Community COMPUSEC. I intend to pursue these recommendations, in coordination with other computer security initiatives, to strengthen the protection of SCI material in computer-based systems.

5. These documents are also being provided to the appropriate officials with responsibilities assigned by NSDD/145.


William J. Casey

Attachments:

- 1) BYE-2227-84
- 2) Computer Security Technology Assessment Report
- 3) Uniform SAFEGUARDS for Protection of "Critical Systems" Processing Intelligence Information

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